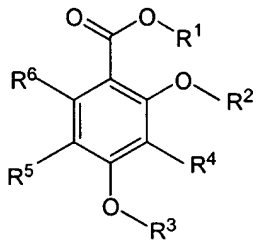
Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A compound of general formula I:



I

wherein:

$R^1$ represents hydrogen or $C_{1-4}$ alkyl;

$R^2$ represents hydrogen or $-C(=O)R^7$;

$R^3$ represents $C_{1-5}$ fluoroalkyl, $C_{2-5}$ fluoroalkenyl or $C_{2-5}$ fluoroalkynyl;

$R^4$, $R^5$ and $R^6$ independently represent hydrogen, $C_{1-4}$ alkyl, $C_{1-4}$ haloalkyl, $C_{1-4}$ alkoxy, $C_{1-4}$ haloalkoxy, halogen, cyano, hydroxy, nitro, $-NR^8R^9$, $-S(O)_xR^{10}$ or $-C(=O)R^{11}$;

$R^7$ and $R^{10}$ independently represent $C_{1-4}$ alkyl;

$R^8$, $R^9$ and $R^{11}$ independently represent hydrogen or $C_{1-4}$ alkyl; and

x represents 0, 1 or 2;

with the proviso that when $R^1$ represents methyl, $R^2$ represents hydrogen, $R^3$ represents 1,1,2,2-tetrafluoroethyl and $R^4$ and $R^5$

represent hydrogen then $R^6$ cannot be hydroxy, and with the further proviso that when $R^1$ represents hydrogen, $R^2$ represents hydrogen and $R^3$ represents 3-fluoropropyl then $R^4$, $R^5$ and $R^6$ cannot represent simultaneously fluoro;

~~and the~~ or a salt~~s~~, solvate~~s and~~ or prodrug~~s~~ thereof.

2. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein $R^4$, $R^5$ and $R^6$ represent hydrogen.

3. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 or 2 wherein $R^3$ represents $C_{1-5}$ fluoroalkyl.

4. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 or 2 wherein $R^3$ represents $C_{1-3}$ fluoroalkyl, $C_{2-3}$ fluoroalkenyl or $C_{2-3}$ fluoroalkynyl.

5. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 or 2 wherein $R^3$ represents $C_{1-3}$ fluoroalkyl.

6. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 or 2 wherein $R^3$ represents 2,2,3,3,3-pentafluoropropyl.

7. (Currently amended) A compound according to ~~any of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1 or 2 wherein $R^1$ represents hydrogen.

8. (Currently amended) A compound according to ~~any of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1 or 2 wherein $R^2$ represents hydrogen or acetyl.

9. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 1 selected from:

methyl 2-hydroxy-4-(2,2,3,3,3-pentafluoropropoxy)benzoate;

methyl 2-hydroxy-4-(2,2,2-trifluoroethoxy)benzoate;

methyl 2-hydroxy-4-(2,2,3,3-tetrafluoropropoxy)benzoate;

methyl 2-hydroxy-4-(2-fluoroethoxy)benzoate;

methyl 4-(2,2-difluoroethoxy)-2-hydroxybenzoate;

2-hydroxy-4-(2,2,3,3,3-pentafluoropropoxy)benzoic acid;

2-hydroxy-4-(2,2,2-trifluoroethoxy)benzoic acid;

2-hydroxy-4-(2,2,3,3-tetrafluoropropoxy)benzoic acid;

2-hydroxy-4-(2-fluoroethoxy)benzoic acid;

4-(2,2-difluoroethoxy)-2-hydroxybenzoic acid;

2-acetoxy-4-(2,2,3,3,3-pentafluoropropoxy)benzoic acid; and

2-acetoxy-4-(2-fluoroethoxy)benzoic acid;

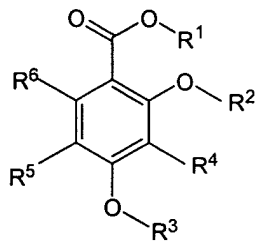
~~or~~ and a salt, solvate or prodrug thereof.

10. (Currently amended) 2-Hydroxy-4-(2,2,3,3,3-pentafluoropropoxy)benzoic acid ~~and the~~ or a salt~~s~~, solvate~~s~~ ~~and~~ or prodrug~~s~~ thereof.

11. (Currently amended) 2-Acetoxy-4-(2,2,3,3,3-pentafluoropropoxy)benzoic acid ~~and the~~ or a salt~~s~~, solvate~~s~~ ~~and~~ or prodrug~~s~~ thereof.

12-13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition which comprises an effective amount of a compound of formula I



I

wherein:

$R^1$ represents hydrogen or $C_{1-4}$ alkyl;

$R^2$ represents hydrogen or $-C(=O)R^7$;

$R^3$ represents $C_{1-5}$ fluoroalkyl, $C_{2-5}$ fluoroalkenyl or $C_{2-5}$ fluoroalkynyl;

$R^4$, $R^5$ and $R^6$ independently represent hydrogen, $C_{1-4}$ alkyl, $C_{1-4}$ haloalkyl, $C_{1-4}$ alkoxy, $C_{1-4}$ haloalkoxy, halogen, cyano, hydroxy, nitro, $-NR^8R^9$, $-S(O)_xR^{10}$ or $-C(=O)R^{11}$;

$R^7$ and $R^{10}$ independently represent $C_{1-4}$ alkyl;

$R^8$, $R^9$ and $R^{11}$ independently represent hydrogen or $C_{1-4}$ alkyl; and

x represents 0, 1 or 2;

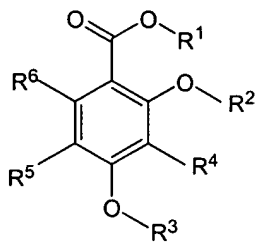
with the proviso that when $R^1$ and $R^2$ each represents hydrogen, and $R^3$ represents 3-fluorophenyl, then $R^4$, $R^5$ and $R^6$ simultaneously cannot represent fluoro;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or prodrug thereof and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.

15. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 14 further comprising one or more additional drugs.

16. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 14 further comprising one or more chemotherapeutic agents.

17. (Currently amended) A product comprising a compound of formula I



I

wherein:

$R^1$ represents hydrogen or $C_{1-4}$ alkyl;

$R^2$ represents hydrogen or $-C(=O)R^7$;

$R^3$ represents $C_{1-5}$ fluoroalkyl, $C_{2-5}$ fluoroalkenyl or $C_{2-5}$ fluoroalkynyl;

$R^4$, $R^5$ and $R^6$ independently represent hydrogen, $C_{1-4}$ alkyl, $C_{1-4}$ haloalkyl, $C_{1-4}$ alkoxy, $C_{1-4}$ haloalkoxy, halogen, cyano, hydroxy, nitro, $-NR^8R^9$, $-S(O)_xR^{10}$ or $-C(=O)R^{11}$;

$R^7$ and $R^{10}$ independently represent $C_{1-4}$ alkyl;

$R^8$, $R^9$ and $R^{11}$ independently represent hydrogen or $C_{1-4}$ alkyl; and

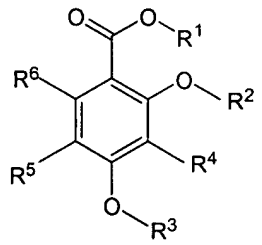
x represents 0, 1 or 2;

<u>with the proviso that when $R^1$ and $R^2$ each represents hydrogen, and $R^3$ represents 3-fluorophenyl, then $R^4$, $R^5$ and $R^6$ simultaneously cannot represent fluoro;</u>

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or prodrug thereof and one or more additional drugs, as a combined preparation for simultaneous, sequential or separate use.

18. (Original) A product according to claim 17 wherein the additional drug is a chemotherapeutic agent.

19. (Currently amended) A method of treating or preventing immune diseases which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of ~~Use of~~ a compound of formula I



I

wherein:

$R^1$ represents hydrogen or $C_{1-4}$ alkyl;

$R^2$ represents hydrogen or $-C(=O)R^7$;

$R^3$ represents $C_{1-5}$ fluoroalkyl, $C_{2-5}$ fluoroalkenyl or $C_{2-5}$ fluoroalkynyl;

$R^4$, $R^5$ and $R^6$ independently represent hydrogen, $C_{1-4}$ alkyl, $C_{1-4}$ haloalkyl, $C_{1-4}$ alkoxy, $C_{1-4}$ haloalkoxy, halogen, cyano, hydroxy, nitro, $-NR^8R^9$, $-S(O)_xR^{10}$ or $-C(=O)R^{11}$;

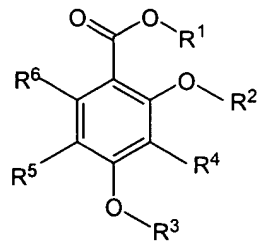
$R^7$ and $R^{10}$ independently represent $C_{1-4}$ alkyl;

$R^8$, $R^9$ and $R^{11}$ independently represent hydrogen or $C_{1-4}$ alkyl; and x represents 0, 1 or 2;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or prodrug thereof ~~for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of immune diseases~~.

20. (Currently amended) A method ~~Use~~ according to claim 19 wherein the immune disease is selected from the group consisting of psoriasis, ~~other skin diseases such as~~ atopic dermatitis, contact dermatitis, lichen planus, dermatomyositis, scleroderma, erythema multiforme, urticaria, ~~and~~ pemphigus, inflammatory bowel disease, ~~including Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis,~~ rheumatoid arthritis, ~~and other arthritic diseases such as~~ gouty arthritis, psoriatic arthritis, juvenile arthritis, ~~and~~ ankylosing spondylitis, multiple sclerosis ~~and other autoimmune neuropathies~~, diabetes, transplant rejection, graft-versus-host disease, lupus erythematosus, vasculitis, Sjögren's syndrome, Guillain-Barre syndrome, glomerulonephritis, ~~respiratory diseases such as~~ allergic rhinitis, asthma, fibrosis, ~~and~~ chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and neoplasias with proliferation of immune cells.

21. (Currently amended) ~~Use of~~ A method of treating or preventing cancer which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof a compound of formula I



I

wherein:

$R^1$ represents hydrogen or $C_{1-4}$ alkyl;

$R^2$ represents hydrogen or $-C(=O)R^7$;

$R^3$ represents $C_{1-5}$ fluoroalkyl, $C_{2-5}$ fluoroalkenyl or $C_{2-5}$ fluoroalkynyl;

$R^4$, $R^5$ and $R^6$ independently represent hydrogen, $C_{1-4}$ alkyl, $C_{1-4}$ haloalkyl, $C_{1-4}$ alkoxy, $C_{1-4}$ haloalkoxy, halogen, cyano, hydroxy, nitro, $-NR^8R^9$, $-S(O)_xR^{10}$ or $-C(=O)R^{11}$;

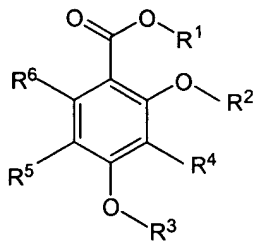
$R^7$ and $R^{10}$ independently represent $C_{1-4}$ alkyl;

$R^8$, $R^9$ and $R^{11}$ independently represent hydrogen or $C_{1-4}$ alkyl; and

x represents 0, 1 or 2;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate or prodrug thereof ~~for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of cancer~~.

22. (Currently amended) Process for preparing a compound of formula I,



I

wherein:

$R^1$ represents hydrogen or $C_{1-4}$ alkyl;

$R^2$ represents hydrogen or $-C(=O)R^7$;

$R^3$ represents $C_{1-5}$ fluoroalkyl, $C_{2-5}$ fluoroalkenyl or $C_{2-5}$ fluoroalkynyl;

$R^4$, $R^5$ and $R^6$ independently represent hydrogen, $C_{1-4}$ alkyl, $C_{1-4}$ haloalkyl, $C_{1-4}$ alkoxy, $C_{1-4}$ haloalkoxy, halogen, cyano, hydroxy, nitro, $-NR^8R^9$, $-S(O)_xR^{10}$ or $-C(=O)R^{11}$;

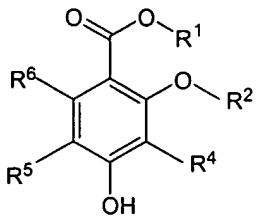
$R^7$ and $R^{10}$ independently represent $C_{1-4}$ alkyl;

$R^8$, $R^9$ and $R^{11}$ independently represent hydrogen or $C_{1-4}$ alkyl; and

x represents 0, 1 or 2;

which comprises:

(a) reacting a phenol of formula II



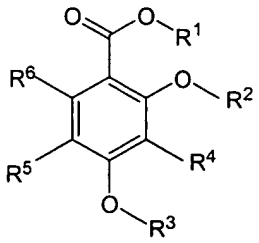
II

wherein $R^1$, $R^2$, $R^4$, $R^5$ and $R^6$ have the meaning described above, with an alkylating agent of formula G-$R^3$ (III), wherein $R^3$ has the meaning described above and G represents a leaving group; or

(b) converting~~, in one or more steps,~~ a compound of formula I into another compound of formula I; and

(c) optionally, ~~if desired,~~ after the above steps and when $R^1$ and/or $R^2$ represent hydrogen, reacting a compound of formula I with a base, to obtain the corresponding addition salt.

23. (New) A compound of general formula I:



I

wherein:

$R^1$ represents hydrogen or $C_{1-4}$ alkyl;

$R^2$ represents hydrogen or $-C(=O)R^7$;

$R^3$ represents $C_{1-5}$ fluoroalkyl, $C_{2-5}$ fluoroalkenyl or $C_{2-5}$ fluoroalkynyl;

$R^4$, $R^5$ and $R^6$ independently represent hydrogen, $C_{1-4}$ alkyl, $C_{1-4}$ haloalkyl, $C_{1-4}$ alkoxy, $C_{1-4}$ haloalkoxy, halogen, cyano, hydroxy, nitro, $-NR^8R^9$, $-S(O)_xR^{10}$ or $-C(=O)R^{11}$;

$R^7$ and $R^{10}$ independently represent $C_{1-4}$ alkyl;

$R^8$, $R^9$ and $R^{11}$ independently represent hydrogen or $C_{1-4}$ alkyl; and

x represents 0, 1 or 2;

with the proviso that when $R^1$ represents methyl, $R^2$ represents hydrogen, $R^3$ represents 1,1,2,2-tetrafluoroethyl and $R^4$ and $R^5$ represent hydrogen then $R^6$ cannot be hydroxy, and with the further proviso that when $R^1$ represents hydrogen, $R^2$ represents hydrogen and $R^3$ represents 3-fluoropropyl then $R^4$, $R^5$ and $R^6$ cannot represent simultaneously fluoro.

24. (New) 2-Hydroxy-4-(2,2,3,3,3-pentafluoropropoxy)benzoic acid.